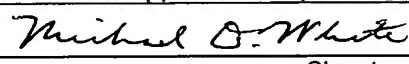


<b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>		<b>ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER</b> 120736.00104 <b>U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)</b> <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">10/534020</div>
<b>INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.</b> PCT/JP2004/9024	<b>INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE</b> 25 June 2004	<b>PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED</b> 27 June 2003
<b>TITLE OF INVENTION</b> DUCT SYSTEM AND STORAGE APPARATUS		
<b>APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US</b> Shoichi YAMAGUCHI		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</li> <li>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) [WO 2005/001349]           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto [28 pages of Specification, 10 claims and 10 sheets of formal drawings].</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</li> <li>d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</li> </ol> </li> <li>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</li> <li>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An unexecuted oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</li> <li>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</li> </ol>		
<b>Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98</li> <li>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</li> <li>13. <input type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</li> <li>14. <input type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.</li> <li>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</li> <li>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.</li> <li>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821 – 1.825.</li> <li>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4)</li> <li>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information:           <div style="margin-left: 20px;">             International Publication No. WO 2005/001349 and International Search Report;              Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-185428 (in Japanese);              Form PCT/ISA/237, Written Opinion of the ISA (in Japanese); and              Form PCT/IB/301, Notification of Receipt of Record Copy.           </div> </li> </ol>		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.414 and 1.491-1.492. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete, including gathering information, preparing and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Project of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>U.S. APPLICATION NO.</b> 10/054020		<b>INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.</b>		<b>ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.</b>							
		PCT/JP2004/9024		120736.00104							
21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees have been submitted Basic national fee..... \$300.00				<b>CALCULATIONS</b>	<b>PTO USE ONLY</b>						
				\$ 300.00							
22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee If International preliminary examination report prepared by USPTO and all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$100.00 All other situations ..... \$200.00				\$ 200.00							
23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority ..... \$100.00 International Search Report prepared and provided to the Office ..... \$400.00 All other situations ..... \$500.00				\$ 400.00							
<b>TOTAL OF 21, 22 and 23 =</b>				<b>\$ 900.00</b>							
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.											
Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)	RATE								
- 100 =	/50 =		x \$250	\$							
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(h)).											
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE								
Total Claims	10	- 20 =	x \$ 50								
Independent Claims	3	- 3 =	x \$200								
			+ \$360								
<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)											
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>				<b>\$ 900.00</b>							
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.											
<b>SUBTOTAL =</b>				<b>\$ 900.00</b>							
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)).				+							
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>				<b>\$ 900.00</b>							
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				+							
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>				<b>\$ 900.00</b>							
<b>Amount to be refunded:</b>											
<b>Amount to be charged:</b>											
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check is enclosed in the amount of \$900.00 to cover the application fee.											
b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.											
c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-2185. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.											
<b>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the international application to pending status.</b>											
<b>SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:</b>  <b>CUSTOMER NO.: 27557</b> <b>BLANK ROME LLP</b> <b>600 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.</b> <b>Washington, D.C. 20037</b> <b>Tel: (202) 772-5800</b> <b>Fax: (202) 572-8398</b>			<div style="text-align: center;">   <b>Signature</b> </div> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%;">Name</td> <td>Michael D. White</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Registration No.</td> <td>32,795</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date</td> <td>May 5, 2005</td> </tr> </table>			Name	Michael D. White	Registration No.	32,795	Date	May 5, 2005
Name	Michael D. White										
Registration No.	32,795										
Date	May 5, 2005										

FORM PTO-1390 (REV. 02-2005)

10/534020

JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 05 MAY 2005

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 120736.00104

APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

TITLE: DUCT SYSTEM AND STORAGE APPARATUS

INVENTORS: Shoichi YAMAGUCHI

ASSIGNEE: GAC CORPORATION  
1000, Ohaza Toyoshina, Toyoshina-machi,  
Minamiazumi-gun, Nagano 399-8286 JAPAN

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Docket No. 120736.00104